

JAN - 3 2014

The Honorable Kay R. Hagan United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hagan:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC). As you know, on Monday the Senate will consider S.1845, the bipartisan Reed-Heller bill, which would extend the EUC program for three months.

The legislation, specifically section 6, would also allow North Carolina to again participate in the EUC program. If enacted, otherwise eligible individuals in North Carolina who have remaining EUC entitlement would be eligible to receive payments prospectively if the program becomes operational again.

Please note, however, that to resume participation in the EUC program, North Carolina would have to enter into another EUC agreement with the Secretary of Labor, as participation by the states in the program is voluntary. Therefore, states must affirmatively opt into the program through a federal-state agreement.

Thank you again for your advocacy on behalf of North Carolinians. I look forward to working with you and your colleagues to restore these crucial unemployment insurance benefits.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Seleznow

Acting Assistant Secretary